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Please see the back page for a list of upcoming services in the United Benefice

Sunday 1st January 2017 - CW edition



**The United Benefice of Long Crendon (LC),
Cheersley (Ch) & Nether Winchendon (NW)**

WELCOME EVERYONE TODAY AND EVERY DAY

**WE WISH ALL WHO LIVE IN OUR THREE PARISHES
A HAPPY AND BLESSED NEW YEAR.**

Prayer



God our Father, in love you sent your Son that the world may have life: lead us to seek him among the outcast and to find him in those in need, for Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen**

Collect for the Second Sunday of Christmas

Almighty God, in the birth of your Son you have poured on us the new light of your incarnate Word, and shown us the fullness of your love: help us to walk in his light and dwell in his love that we may know the fullness of his joy; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Readings for Today:



The Old Testament: Isaiah 63.7-9

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us, and the great favour to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely"; and he became their saviour in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

The Epistle: Hebrews 2.10-18

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you." And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Here am I and the children whom God has given me." Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The Gospel: St. Matthew 2.13-end

Now after the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more." When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was

ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

Post Communion Prayer

All praise to you, almighty God and heavenly king, who sent your Son into the world to take our nature upon him and to be born of a pure virgin: grant that, as we are born again in him, so he may continually dwell in us and reign on earth as he reigns in heaven, now and for ever. **Amen**

Notes for your diary:

Saturday 7th January, 9:30 am, St. Mary's, Long Crendon, Monthly Prayer Gathering. Everyone is welcome. Ray Copping

Sunday 8th January, in St. Mary's Long Crendon: we will have our annual demonstration of Morris Dancing in church immediately after the 10.30am service, to mark Plough Sunday. In Medieval times, some ploughs were kept in parish churches, and the first Sunday of Epiphany was kept as a time to look forward to the season of sowing and harvest, and for asking God's blessing on the working year ahead.

Saturday 4th February, Safari Supper:

Saturday 11th February, Dinner and Entertainment at the Manor, Long Crendon Both organised by the Friends of St. Mary's, and all proceeds go to help preserve and improve the fabric of our lovely old village church, St. Mary's Long Crendon. Please book through www.FSMLongCrendon.org or e-mail friends@FSMLongCrendon.org or call Geoff Smith 01844 208205 or Chris Miller on 208027 (Gift Aid form available from Geoff).

Services in the United Benefice

Sunday 1st January 2017 – The Second Sunday of Christmas (CW) or The Sunday after Christmas Day (BCP)

10:00 am United Benefice Holy Communion LC Richard Phillips
All are welcome at this United Benefice service at St. Mary's, which will be the only service in the three churches on this day (please note time).

Sunday 8th January 2017 – The Epiphany (Plough Sunday)

8:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	LC	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Morning Celebration	Ch	Lay Led
10:00 am	Matins	NW	Robert Spencer Bernard
10:30 am	Holy Communion	LC	Richard Phillips/Robert Hutton
6:00 pm	Evensong	Ch	John Scholefield

Sunday 15th January 2017 – Second Sunday of Epiphany (CW) or Second Sunday after the Epiphany (BCP)

9:00 am	Holy Communion	Ch	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Family Service	NW	Robert Hutton
10:30 am	Family Service	LC	Richard Phillips

Sunday 22nd January 2017 – Third Sunday of Epiphany (CW) or Third Sunday after the Epiphany (BCP)

8:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	LC	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Family Service	Ch	Derek Witchell
10:30 am	Holy Communion with choir	LC	Richard Phillips
5:00 pm	Evensong	NW	Richard Phillips

Sunday 29th January 2017 – Fourth Sunday of Epiphany (CW) or Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany (BCP)

10:00 am United Benefice Service NW Richard Phillips
This is a fifth Sunday and there will be no other service on this day.

Sunday 5th February 2017 – Fourth Sunday before Lent (CW) or Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany (BCP)

9:00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	NW	Richard Phillips
10:00 am	Café Sunday	LC	Lay Led
10:00 am	Family Holy Communion	Ch	Richard Phillips/John Scholefield

If you have events coming up in the Benefice and would like them included in future Pew Sheets, please let us have the details on llm.chearsley@btinternet.com Please note that your wording may have to be edited to fit the available space - John and Jenny Scholefield